REMARKS

The above amendment and these remarks are responsive to the Office Action of Examiner Kieu D. Vu of 9 Mar 2005.

Claims 1-19 and 21 are in the case, none as yet allowed.

35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1-13 and 19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Grau et al (Grau, USP 5,910,803) and Salas et al (Salas, USP 6,314,408).

Claims 14-18 and 21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Grau, Salas, and Rodden et al (Rodden, USP 6,473,102).

By way of summary, the Examiner appears to be relying on Grau for a teaching of the search concept, on Salas for a teaching of collaboration space, and on Rodden for a teaching of floating windows.

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In the response to Applicants' arguments filed on 10/05/04 [Office Action, page 7], the Examiner notes the following:

1.   Applicants' claims do not recite the limitation that user selection of a quick browse selector in the main window opens a quick browse window.

   Applicants have amended the claims to specifically recite this feature.

2.   Grau's browser 615 can be reasonably interpreted as a quick browse selector.

   Applicants have amended the claims to clarify the distinctions between Grau's browser and Applicants' quick browse selector which, upon activation, opens a window with page controls (links) that, upon selection, redirect the QuickPlace window to the linked page.

      When the user clicks the remote control link 302, such as button 536 (Figure 10), or 532 (Figure 9), a window 296, 330 opens with a compact set of links 304 to browse. When the user clicks a link in the remote

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control 304, the main QuickPlace window 330 is
<u>redirected to the linked page 332</u>. [Specification, page
84, line 6ff. Emphasis added.]

This allows the user to page through many screens of results
from the paging controls provided by the quick browse
selector.

3.   Grau's names of map functions can be interpreted as a
set of links.

Applicants have amended the claims to clarify the
distinctions between Grau's map functions and Applicants'
links. Applicants agree that a name of a map can be
considered a link. However, there is a difference between
Grau's names and Applicants links in the nature of the
target; that is, what the link target is. In the mapping
system of Grau, selection of a map name simply pulls the map
up from the database. On the other hand, Applicants' links,
upon selection, take the user (that is, the main window) to
a different location in the collaboration space (that is,
the linked-to page, which is a page in collaboration space).

4.   There is a difference, not claimed, between displaying

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something in a quick browse window and opening a quick browse window.

Applicants have amended the claims to properly and specifically recite that selection of the quick browse selector opens a quick browse window.

As amended, all claims have been corrected to more clearly state the distinctions argued with respect to Grau and Salas in the previous Amendment.

Applicants invention provides a quick browse window, which is a separate window from a main window. The main window is a window that is opened in a user interface as a result of a user selecting a search or a what's new operation. The term "main window" is used to distinguish it from the "quick browse window". The quickbrowse window is loaded with short, descriptive links to hits from a user browser initiated search of collaboration space. The search is user initiated as either a regular search or a what's new search against collaboration space. The results of the search are displayed in a main window which is opened in response to the search. That main window also contains a quickbrowse icon or other selector 302. The user clicks on

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the quickbrowse icon or selector, and in response a
quickbrowse floating window 296 opens which includes the
search results as selection items. As the user clicks on
selection items in the quickbrowse window the selected
content in displayed in the main window.

The essential and distinguishing feature over the art
references is that the quickbrowse selector is presented to
the user as part of or within the window (herein designated
as a main window to distinguish it from the floating or
quickbrowse window) which is opened in response to and for
the purpose of presenting the results of the search of
collaboration space.

These features are described in applicants
specification at pages 83-85, as follows. In this
description, the quickbrowse selector of claim 1 is referred
to as a remote control icon, and the main window of claim 1
is referred to as a main Quick Place window and also as a
search results or what's new context.

In accordance with a preferred embodiment of the
invention, a system and method is provided for
enhancing browsing in collaboration space of

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collections of links. These link collections exist in a variety of formats which users need to be able to quickly visit in any order. For example, a random access UI is provided to What's New and Search Results links. These items can reside in more than [one] room, producing potentially brutal context switches from one link to the next...

Referring to Figure 14, in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the invention, quick-browse is implemented as a "remote control" UI mechanism 304. A Remote Control link/icon is displayed in any context 296 that supports it, such as Search Results and What's New. When the user clicks the remote control link 302, such as button 536 (Figure 10)... a window 296, 330 opens with a compact set of links 304 to browse. When the user clicks a link in the remote control 304, the main QuickPlace window 330 is redirected to the linked page 332...

Clicking the remote control icon opens a quickbrowse window, containing one or more links. Upon being clicked, these links open in the main QuickPlace window; therefore the QuickBrowse window acts like a

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remote control onto the main window. This allows the
set of hits to remain available as the user browses
around, in any order. What's New and Search Results
generate links that can be anywhere in a QuickPlace –
i.e., in any of possibly many different rooms. The
QuickBrowse window is an attempt to bring some
coherence to the experience of jumping around all over
the QuickPlace. (Emphasis added.)

All independent claims variously recite these features.
As amended, the claims clearly distinguish the Grau
reference, upon which the Examiner relies for the
"searching" concept and the quickbrowse selector.

Applicants claim 1 (as currently amended) states:

1.   A method for browsing in collaboration space,
comprising the steps of:

     presenting to a user at a browser an interface to said
     collaboration space;

     The Examiner refers to Salas for the teaching of a
     browser for browsing and displaying links in a

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collaborative work environment, and to Grau, col.
1, lines 63-67, which states:

> "A management console interacts with the
> server to provide a graphical user interface
> for displaying the atlas on a computer screen
> in a variety of views that facilitate
> comprehension of logical relationships
> between various components of the system."
> (Grau, col. 1, lines 63-67).

Applicants agree that Salas and Grau teach
presentation at a browser of an interface to
collaboration space.

**responsive to said user opening in said interface a
main window selectively including context resulting
from entry of a search of a selectable object in said
collaboration space or in a what's new subset of said
collaboration space, presenting a quick browse selector
and results of said search in said main window;**

The Examiner refers to Grau, col. 2, citing window
600 as the "main window" and element 615 as the

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quick browse selector.

It is apparent from an examination of Figure 6 and of the material from Col. 7 of Grau that browser 615, which may be considered to have certain similar function as applicants' quickbrowse window is not at all equivalent to applicants quickbrowse selector. As previously described, applicants' quickbrowse selector is selector which is presented in a main window which a user may click to open a quickbrowse window.

Grau's browser 615 is not such a selector. Grau's element 615 refers to the entire list of maps presented in pane 610, one of which (WAN 612) has been selected and is being viewed in pane 620.

responsive to user selection of said quick browse selector,

Opening a separate quick browse window;

As the Examiner properly observed, opening a window is different from displaying in a

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window.   This corrects the claim on this
point.

searching said <u>selectable</u> object to generate a set
of hits,

> The Examiner cites "maps" as the claimed set
> of hits.   Presumably, this refers to the list
> of maps 615 in pane 610.

creating a set of links to said set of hits to
control said main window without losing context
displaying said context in [[a]] <u>said</u> separate
quick browse window within said main window in a
simpler format, with an entry in said separate
quick browse window for each item in said set of
hits; and

> The Examiner cites left pane 610 in Fig. 6 as
> the quickbrowse window.

> Applicants note that there is no teaching of
> opening left pane 610 responsive to a user
> selecting a quickbrowse selector which

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appears in right pane 620. For Grau to teach
applicants claim, there would have to be such
a quickbrowse selector. Element 615 does not
appear in main window 620, nor is it selected
to open a quickbrowse window.

Applicants have amended the claim above to
clarify this distinction.

responsive to user selection of an item in said
quick browse window, executing paging controls for
redirecting said main window to a linked page for
displaying in said main window an object a page in
collaboration space linked to said item.

The Examiner cites pane 620 as the main
window in which an item linked to the
selected item is displayed. Previously, the
Examiner cited element 600 as the main
window.

Applicants argue that a closest possible
reading of Grau would draw analogy between
Grau's window 600 and applicants' claimed

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interface, and between Grau's window 620 and applicants' claimed main window.

However, even window 620 does not qualify as applicants main window, for it does not include a quickbrowse selector which a user may click (or select) to open a quickbrowse window, as the claim has been corrected to clarify.

The above analysis of claim 1 also pertains with respect to all other independent claims 14, 19, and 21.

Claim 14 recites "<u>remote control mechanism</u> responsive to user selection and<u> displayed in any context in said user interface</u> supporting a quick browse feature". In this case, the "remote control mechanism" may be considered a quickbrowse selector and the context supporting a quick browse feature may be considered the main window, as those have been distinguished from Grau in connection with claim 1.

Claim 19 requires that the quickplace selector be presented in a main window, that is the window in which the

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search results are displayed. On this point, Grau has previously been distinguished.

Claim 21 recites "selectively presenting said first set of hits or said second set of hits and a quickbrowse selector to said user in a main window of said interface". On this point, Grau has previously been distinguished.

Neither Salas nor Rodden teach the concept of presenting in a main window (as that term is used in the claims) a quickbrowse selector, so the combination of Grau with Salas and Rodden does not teach applicants invention as now defined in any of applicants independent claims.

Applicants urge that claims 1-19 and 21 be allowed.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Applicants urge that the above amendments be entered and the case passed to issue with claims 1-19 and 21.

The Application is believed to be in condition for

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allowance and such action by the Examiner is urged. Should differences remain, however, which do not place one/more of the remaining claims in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to phone the undersigned at the number provided below for the purpose of providing constructive assistance and suggestions in accordance with M.P.E.P. Sections 707.02(j) and 707.03 in order that allowable claims can be presented, thereby placing the Application in condition for allowance without further proceedings being necessary.

Sincerely,

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